Local Education Agency (LEA) Requirements for the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act

- A homeless liaison is required in <u>every</u> school district. *****
- LEAs need to designate an appropriate liaison (may be a coordinator of other Federal Programs).
- LEAs must adopt policies and practices to ensure transportation is provided, at request of parent or guardian (or LEA homeless liaison on behalf of unaccompanied youth), to and from the school of origin.
- Enroll homeless child or youth **immediately** <u>even if no records are currently available</u>.
- Schools must contact the child's (or youth's) school last attended for academic and other records.
- Immediate referral to LEA homeless liaison if immunization or medical records are unavailable from prior school (s).
- Records must be kept, maintained, and available for future school enrollment.

*The State Education Agency (SEA) will provide training for homeless liaisons.

Role of LEA Homeless Liaison

- Ensure identification of students through coordination with school personnel and other agencies.
- Ensure enrollment with full and equal opportunity to succeed in school (Head Start, Even Start, preschool, healthcare, dental care, mental health, etc.).
- Ensure parent/guardian or youth is informed of educational rights.
- Assist unaccompanied youth with placement, enrollment, and knowing their rights.
- Disseminate public notices of educational rights.
- Inform and assist with accessing transportation.
- Mediate enrollment disputes.

Coordination with Title I

- Title I requires that districts must provide services for children and youth living in homeless situations.
- Children and youth experiencing homelessness are automatically eligible to receive Title I services by virtue of their homelessness.
- LEAs have to submit a Title I, Part A plan to SEAs that is coordinated with McKinney- Vento <u>and</u> describes services and set-asides.

Additional information about the Education of Homeless Children and Youth can be found by visiting the following web sites:

http://www.ed.gov/offices/OESE/CEP/hmlsprogresp.html

http://www.serve.org/nche/